

TESTING ELIGIBILITY – MULTIPLE DISCIPLINE EXPERIENCE

Candidates seeking certification in more than one certification discipline are subject to the following experience policy, which shall be in addition to all other existing policies.

For candidates seeking secondary certification(s), at least seventy percent (70%) of the operating experience credited by the Certification Board must be applied towards the primary certification. Reduced percentages of operating experience may be applied towards the operating experience requirement for secondary certification(s), as deemed relevant by the Certification Board. If a candidate seeks more than one certification, the total operating experience documented for the primary certification and all secondary certifications may not exceed 100%.

Duties related to the operating experience being applied towards secondary certification(s) shall be documented by the applicant and verified by the applicant's supervisor or appropriate agency representative. Candidates seeking secondary certification(s) in other disciplines shall be limited to Grade 1 certification(s) unless sufficient levels of increasing complexity and a variety of duties and tasks can be demonstrated. Acceptable duties that may be applied towards secondary certification(s) shall be determined at the discretion of the Certification Board.

Example of Candidate Seeking Dual Certification

If a candidate, whose primary job duty is plant operations, seeks certification as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, the individual may take a Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator certification exam when all eligibility requirements have been met. If the same candidate's secondary job duty is to perform a variety of laboratory analyses and the candidate also seeks Wastewater Quality Analyst certification, the candidate may apply up to 30% of their total operating experience towards the Wastewater Quality Analyst certification, as documented by actual duties being performed, without a reduction in the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) experience for the primary certification. Thus, if a candidate claims 30% of their total time is spent on laboratory analysis, it would take the candidate approximately three years and four months to obtain the necessary one year of FTE experience to qualify for the Grade I Wastewater Quality Analyst certification.

If a candidate claims more than 30% of their total operating experience in any secondary discipline (i.e. laboratory, plant maintenance, or collection systems), the FTE experience for the primary certification shall be reduced by an equivalent amount. Candidates seeking eligibility for secondary certification(s) must declare experience percentages. Attempts to subvert the FTE experience requirements by altering previously declared percentages shall be considered an act of dishonesty. Acts of dishonesty are a violation of the Professional Code of Conduct and are subject to disciplinary action up to and including revocation of certification.

Example of Candidate Seeking Multiple Certifications

If a candidate, whose primary job duty is plant operations, seeks certification as a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, the individual may take a Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator certification exam when all eligibility requirements have been met. If the same candidate's secondary job duties include performing a variety of laboratory analyses and plant maintenance tasks, and the

candidate also seeks certification in both additional job disciplines, the candidate may apply up to 30% of their total experience towards those corresponding certifications.

Thus, if a candidate claiming 25% of their total time is spent on plant maintenance duties and 10% of their time is spent on laboratory analyses, it would take the candidate four years to qualify for a Grade I certification as a Plant Maintenance Technologist and ten (10) years to qualify for a Grade 1 certification as a Wastewater Quality Analyst.

If a candidate claims more than 30% of their total operating experience in any secondary discipline (i.e. laboratory, plant maintenance, or collection systems), the FTE experience for the primary certification shall be reduced by an equivalent amount. Candidates seeking eligibility for secondary certification(s) must declare experience percentages. Attempts to subvert the FTE experience requirements by altering previously declared percentages shall be considered an act of dishonesty. Acts of dishonesty are a violation of the Professional Code of Conduct and are subject to disciplinary action up to and including revocation of certification.